

death of their employer, Today the Ramspeck Act is a 55-year-old solution to a problem that no longer exists—namely the hiring and retention of congressional staff. I think we all agree that we have hard-working, dedicated staff, and this is in no way meant to denigrate them or the work they do. But to give any applicant for a Federal job such preferential treatment is wrong—and I hope my colleagues will join me in working to end this practice which smacks more of who you know than how good a job you can do.

#### THE CASE AGAINST BLOCK GRANTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last year, Congress made a promise to put 100,000 new police officers on our streets. Today, Republicans are ready to break that promise. The Republican crime bill does not devote a single dollar for cops on the beat. Instead, it creates block grants to the States, which may sound like a good idea, but we have been down this road before.

The last time we tried a similar block grant program for law enforcement, States used the grant money to buy land, cars for politicians, jet planes, financial investments, and to pay for consultants.

By contrast, the crime bill we passed last year is already working to put more police in our neighborhoods. My hometown of New Haven, CT, has nine new officers on the beat, already.

Our local law enforcement, our mayors, our chiefs of police, and our sheriffs have all thanked us for the cops on the beat program. Members of Congress have a choice to make today. Will you stand with law enforcement, or will you stand with the practitioners of politics-as-usual? Stand with the cops, pass the Conyers-Schumer amendment.

#### SUPPORT URGED FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY REVITALIZATION ACT

(Mr. CHAMBLISS asked and was given permission to address the House and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will take up H.R. 7, the National Security Revitalization Act. H.R. 7 represents a vital statement of priority and policy for the future of this Nation's military.

H.R. 7 offers a much needed policy redirection in the area of U.N. peacekeeping operations. Too many Americans have experienced the painful costs associated with the ever-expanding peacekeeping role of the United Nations.

This country has raised and trained the most effective military machine the world has ever known. And yet, how can we allow our sons and daughters to be put under inferior command and control?

H.R. 7 restricts the President's ability to subordinate U.S. troops to U.N. command and control by requiring Presidential certification of such an arrangement and by restricting the funding required for U.S. forces engaged in U.N. operations.

We owe it to our military men and women to pass H.R. 7 and resist weakening amendments.

#### BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR THE CRIME PACKAGE WELCOMED

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, while in my congressional district this past weekend, constituents expressed both their pleasure and astonishment that elected officials were able to keep a campaign promise. Citizens appreciate the swift and successful manner which the crime legislation has passed through the House.

People appreciate the bipartisan support the crime package has and will continue to receive. They overwhelmingly support the new crime bill which: First, Controls the endless number of death row appeals; second, extends the good-faith measure under the exclusionary rule; and third, ensures that convicts serve at least 85 percent of their sentence.

Today, we will debate the Local Government Block Grant Act which grants local communities greater control in the battle against crime.

I can assure you that law enforcement, as well as the taxpayer, appreciate this help to fight crime. The Contract With America is helping to rebuild the public's trust in Congress.

#### WORLD STILL THREATENED BY NUCLEAR WEAPONS, DEFENSE REVITALIZATION NEEDED

(Mr. SCARBOROUGH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, the big lie has been spread over the past few years across this country that the world is a safe place to live in now than it was 5 years ago. Well, the fact of the matter is there are as many nuclear weapons in Russia today as there were before the Soviet Union broke apart, and in China they have the second fastest growing economy in the 1980's in all of Asia, and they are using their new found economic power to rebuild their military machine.

In the next 5 years it has been estimated that countries will have an intermediate range missile capability to launch nuclear weapons across continents.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to take part in H.R. 7, a bill that not only will strengthen our national defense but finally take power away from the United Nations and return it where it belongs, back with the Armed Forces of the United States.

#### IN SUPPORT OF GIVING BLOCK GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO FIGHT CRIME

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, if President Clinton needs any proof that his crime bill is misguided, he only needs to look out the window right here in Washington, DC, where the police chief has come out in support of the Republican idea to give block grants to local government. He knows the truth of what Republicans have been saying for years—that Washington simply does not have all the answers. This one-size-fits-all approach to crime control is completely wrong and contrary to whatever disinformation or misinformation we may have heard from the other side of the aisle.

It is a very simple system. The local communities get to use this money for one of four purposes—more cops, more equipment, police in schools, or prevention. So they get to use this for prevention programs as long as they have law enforcement officers involved in them. The DARE Program will not go away. In fact, it is the perfect program that could be used in this way. This is something that ought to be supported. Clearly, it is being attacked by the President for the wrong reasons, and all he has to do is listen to Chief Thomas in Washington.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 521

Mr. BEILENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of the bill, H.R. 521.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COMBEST). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote 118 on passage of H.R. 668, the Criminal Alien Deportation Improvements Act, I was unable to be here due to travel constraints.

Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yea."

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANTS ACT OF 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 79 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 79

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for